



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

Region IV

**ORIGINAL**

200 West Adams Street  
Suite 310  
Chicago, IL 60606

*CORRESPONDENCE*

April 22, 2003

Mr. Dave Lazarides  
Director of Information & Processing  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
527 East Capitol Avenue  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

**RECEIVED**  
JUL 8 2003

Illinois Commerce Commission  
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

Subject: Docket # T03-0030 Brundige Road

Dear Mr. Lazarides:

The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) primary mission is ensuring railroad safety. To accomplish its mission, FRA encourages cooperative efforts to advance safety throughout America's rail system, including the prevention of highway-rail crossing collisions-one of two of the leading causes of rail related deaths and injuries. Our ongoing effort to enhance safety at highway-rail crossings takes on several different approaches. One of those approaches, deals specifically with grade crossing consolidations.

One action that impedes our efforts of consolidating grade crossings is the failure to close grade crossings when the construction of a grade separation nearby has been established. A grade separation is a structure whereby the highway user can travel over or under the railroad-right-of-way safely without risk of collision with a train.

The FRA supports the consolidation of and/or closing of redundant and unnecessary highway-rail grade crossings. This is a key element in the United States Department of Transportation Action Plan to improve grade crossing safety. FRA is encouraging States, political subdivisions and railroads to reduce the 251,848 public and private grade crossings. To assist in this process, crossing diagnostic teams are organized by State officials. Members include representatives from operating railroads and officials from Federal agencies. Local governments are encouraged to participate.

The FRA supports the closure of Brundige Road DOT # 175003E in Kane County Illinois, Union Pacific Railroad milepost 39.40. The Bunker/LaFox Road realignment and grade separation is scheduled for construction at milepost 40.80, on the Union Pacific Railroad. Construction is due to start in 2003 with completion in the year 2005.

**DOCKETED**

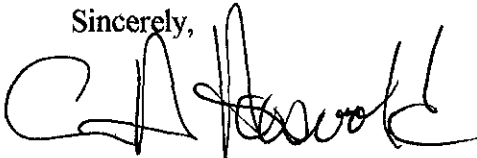
*BU/IT*

I hope you will concur with this office's recommendation to close the Brundige Road grade crossing. This change will provide the residents in the community the quality of life they deserve and desire.

Thank you for taking the time to give consideration to this important issue. FRA recommends that consideration by the Illinois Commerce Commission be given to the closure of Brundige Road. The FRA remains firm and steadfast in our commitment to a safe rail transportation system for passengers, railroad employees and the public

Nearly every 120 minutes someone in America is hit by a train. Most vehicle train collisions occur within 25 miles of the motorist's home. Let's keep the surrounding area safe, by eliminating a place to cross railroad tracks at grade.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Hasvold', written over a horizontal line.

Laurence Hasvold  
Regional Administrator

CC: Thomas Zappler  
Director of Community Affairs  
Union Pacific Railroad  
101 N Wacker Dr. Suite 1910  
Chicago, IL 60606

Ms. Jill Kozlowski  
1N468 Pouley Road  
Elburn, IL 60119

**When Approaching ALL railroad tracks – always expect a Train !**

When Approaching ALL railroad tracks – always expect a Train !

Map of referenced area

